



USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

SPECIAL SURVEY RESULTS OCTOBER QUARTERLY LABOR

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NOVEMBER 2005 EXCLUSIVELY FOR SURVEY RESPONDENTS

Dear Respondent:

This issue of the **USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE SURVEY RESULTS** covers the results of the **QUARTERLY FARM LABOR SURVEY** for the week of October 9-15, 2005. This is being sent exclusively to those of you who responded to our request for data. The information you provided made these published estimates possible. Thank you for your cooperation and the time spent completing the surveys.

Sincerely,

Dwaine C. Nelson
Director

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 25,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona during the week of October 9th - 15th, 2005, up 8.7 percent from a year ago. Hours worked increased 1.8 percent to an average of 44.8 hours per worker. Average wage rates for all hired workers were up by 53 cents from last year to \$8.28 an hour. Wage rates for New Mexico and Arizona remain below the national average of \$9.61 an hour.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,129,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of October 9-15, 2005, down 4 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 840,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 289,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.61 per hour during the October 2005 reference week, up 29 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.90 per hour, up 28 cents from last October, while livestock workers earned \$9.14 per hour compared with \$8.91 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$8.96 per hour, was up 27 cents from last year.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
Selected Regions and U.S., October 2004-2005 ^{1/}**

| | Mountain II ^{2/} | | Mountain III ^{3/} | | Southern Plains ^{4/} | | United States ^{5/} | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| | Oct 10-16 2004 | Oct 9-15 2005 | Oct 10-16 2004 | Oct 9-15 2005 | Oct 10-16 2004 | Oct 9-15 2005 | Oct 10-16 2004 | Oct 9-15 2005 |
| Workers on Farms | -----Thousands----- | | | | | | | |
| All Hired Workers | 19 | 22 | 23 | 25 | 44 | 64 | 851 | 840 |
| Hours Worked | -----Hours Per Week----- | | | | | | | |
| All Hired Workers | 41.6 | 45.9 | 44.0 | 44.8 | 40.3 | 39.1 | 40.5 | 42.0 |
| Wages By Work Type | -----Dollars Per Hour----- | | | | | | | |
| Field | 8.32 | 7.94 | 7.03 | 7.27 | 8.44 | 7.60 | 8.62 | 8.90 |
| Livestock | 8.95 | 8.39 | 8.04 | 8.87 | 8.68 | 7.84 | 8.91 | 9.14 |
| Field & Livestock | 8.56 | 8.14 | 7.36 | 7.67 | 8.53 | 7.68 | 8.69 | 8.96 |
| All Workers | 9.40 | 8.75 | 7.75 | 8.28 | 9.34 | 8.38 | 9.32 | 9.61 |

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. ^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.